

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NOTICE OF FORMAL REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION COMMITTEE:

Natural Resources TIME & DATE: N/A Saturday, August 1,
2020 PLACE: N/A

Chair: Lyle Larson

Shannon.Houston_HC@house.texas.gov

My Response to:

Interim Charge 4;

The committee also seeks written submissions on the following topics: • Emerging issues in groundwater and surface water interaction, in particular in areas of increasing competition for scarce resources.

It is “**my opinion**” regarding the issue of “groundwater and surface water interaction” maybe known at the “one water movement”, is totally politically motivated by political leaders pandering to the large municipalities and water marketers.

In the realm of regulatory agencies, surface water belongs to and is regulated by the State of Texas, groundwater as stated in Texas Water Code 36.002 belongs to the landowner and is considered as real property.

Any attempt to combine the regulation of the two will erode the private property rights of all land owners in the State of Texas. In most areas of the State groundwater conservation districts are served by a local board of directors, elected by the citizens they represent, who have the opportunity to express their opinions and request to the board of directors at every board meeting.

When it comes to regulation, there is no interaction between surface water and groundwater, political leaders should be very cautious in any attempt to take away this very precious property right of groundwater rights beneath the landowner’s property.

Gene Williams, General Manager
Headwaters Groundwater Conservation District
125 Lehmann Dr. Ste. 202
Kerrville, TX 78028
gene@hgcd.org